

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, March 28, 2013

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

**Please note the minutes are a brief summary and
not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.**

Larry Gasco, Chairman, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Larry Gasco

- The meeting was called to order by Larry Gasco
- Roll Call by Canetana Hurd, Commission Staff
Attendance recorded as follows:
Absent excused: Victoria Sofro, Howard Askins, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – January and February 2013 minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

MSC – DeBose/Huffman (January minutes)

MSC – Gasco/Lubin (February minutes)

II. Chairman's Report – Larry Gasco

- **Executive Committee Report** – The meeting was held March 14, 2013. Commissioner Huffman spoke on items discussed:
 - 1) Budget
 - 2) Commission recruitment for USC Intern and Student Professional Worker
 - 3) Meeting agenda items, retreat, and upcoming conferences
 - 4) Health Reform Workgroup planning
 - 5) New Employee Orientation
- **MHC/SAAC Chairs Report** – The meeting was held March 12, 2013. Dr. William Arroyo, Medical Director for Children's System of Care at and Dr. Richard Cohen, Project Director of Project ABC spoke to the SAAC group about Project ABC (About Building Connections). ABC is a project conducted in Service Area 8 that promotes building strong relationships with early intervention for children ages 0-5. The presentation was intended to share Project ABC with other service area groups.
- **Antelope Valley Motion** – Commissioner Judy Cooperberg presented a motion (attached) that originated from the December 20th Commission meeting held in the Antelope Valley (AV). The motion contained unmet mental health needs identified by city and community residents in AV. The motion was approved by Commissioner Cooperberg, seconded by Commissioner Perrou, and unanimous consent by Commission members. A brief discussion followed.

1. DMH Comments – Service delivery is a concern with DMH because each recommendation may require different ways to

address the issues. It was suggested that the recommendations need timelines connected to them.

2. Commissioner Perrou encouraged total participation from all to respond to the needs in the AV. The AV is an isolated area and if Los Angeles County can address the needs especially in law enforcement it will put the County in a nationally recognized position. There is currently a training program being developed in the AV to help law enforcement better serve mental health clients.
3. Commissioner Lubin commented that this is a good opportunity for Los Angeles County to show the state that local funding is needed to prevent cuts.
4. Commissioner DeBose publically acknowledged the efforts of Commissioner Cooperberg hosting the December 20th meeting that received an overwhelming response from the community, and preparing the motion.

DMH Report – Robin Kay, PhD, Chief Deputy Director, DMH reported the following:

Health Reform Readiness – Are we ready?

- DMH continues preliminary in house work building on what has been done
- Co-location of mental health and primary bi-directional care established
- Integrate mental and primary health for all populations
- Health neighborhoods
- Pairing DHS/DMH clinics for clients that are normally seen so they become familiar with new providers
- Focus on outcomes, are the services doing what is intended
- Partner with consultant groups that are subject experts on treatment philosophy, operational issues, and formalization to partner with communities
- Ready the workforce and technology with the new IBHIS and Avatar systems
- Fifty percent of the target populations have been enrolled in Healthy Way LA.

Budget Hearing – State realignment for 2007/07 EPSDT projections are higher than expected. As a result DMH adjusted the 2012 budget to cover the difference. Transition of EPSDT clients will take place April 2014 which will create a funding demand on DMH. The Department plans to add the Fee-for-Service component to those providers who qualify so clients can remain with their primary provider.

DHS/DMH co-located statistical results are better than hoped for.

Legislative Report – Susan Rajlal, DMH Legislative Analyst

Ms. Rajlal handed out legislative information on bills of interest and Laura's Law. She stated there are 25 bills pending on health care reform but no mention of mental health. Ms. Rajlal also stated health subcommittee visits are going well. Ms. Rajlal further handed out information used as talking points on opportunities for mental health and health care reform; mental health benefits and services available for Medi-Cal beneficiaries in 2014, one system of care—specialty mental health services available to Medi-Cal beneficiaries in the current network of care, and preserve the safety net funding given to counties for newly insured and uninsured.

III. Commissioners' Reports

- **Commissioner Lubin** spoke on the zoning issue of shared housing in Los Angeles City. HUD intervened stating if the City of LA moved forward on this issue they will pull HUD funding. Commissioner Lubin further pointed out that the monthly clinical snapshot report attached a new chart that gleaned data of unique clients served, total medication cost, and gross IMP (indigent medication program) savings information. Commissioner Lubin announced to notify him if Commissioners would like to see other areas charted.
- **Commissioner Perrou** announced the Connections for Life conference registration is open. Commissioner Perrou also stated that he wants to mentor the new commissioners.
- **Commissioner Cooperberg** stated that SAAC 1 assembled a law enforcement training task force that consists of the Palmdale Police Department Captain, representatives from County Public Safety and Sheriff Departments, and other community people. Commissioner Cooperberg further stated that everyone in law enforcement from the AV (over 600) will be trained to better serve mentally ill constituents.
- **Commissioner Huffman** stated that she spoke at the DMH new employee orientation and there were 68 new employees. Commissioner encouraged the group to utilize the resources from DMH

IV. SAAC/Community Reports/LACCC

SAAC Reports –

SAAC 1 – Jean Harris, SAAC Co-chair reported on the following:

- Steve Goodwin visited the SAAC meeting which 34 attended
- Local cab driver discussed interest in addressing transportation issues in AV. He is willing to work with the community to help out, e.g. reduced rates
- Representatives from Transportation Association department attended in support of the transportation issues stated in the AV motion. Criminal Justice Commission supports the law enforcement training

- There is an increase in community involvement and growth in SAAC participation because of the support from the Commission
- SAAC meeting will be postponed to attend the MHSA Annual Plan Update on April 18.

SAAC 2 – Barbara Wilson reported that Service Area 2:

- Is underserved but has huge support from the community
- Dr. Ron Klein, retired DMH District Chief, has come back to participate in the SAAC meetings

SAAC 6 – Dorothy Banks reported the SAAC is formulating subcommittees:

- Legislative—local, state and national issues
- TAY
- Latino Unity Support
- Continued Information
- Health and Substance Abuse
- Education
- Data Outcome – measures
- Advocacy education

Ms. Banks further reported that 40 to 50 people regularly attend SAAC meetings monthly.

SAAC 8 – John Czernek reported that SAAC 8 group:

- Received approval for a larger location with more parking and located downtown
- Voted on agenda items up to December 2013
- LGBTQ is the main topic for the next few months
- Develop membership subcommittees, e.g., hospitality team

Los Angeles County Client Coalition (LACCC) – Pam Inaba announced:

- The 2nd Annual Innovations in Recovery Conference (A Client/Consumer Perspective) June 3, 2013 extended “call for papers” deadline. Ms. Inaba also invited Commissioners to attend the conference.

SLT Ad Hoc (System Leadership Team Ad Hoc committee) – Commissioner Lubin reported that the SLT ad hoc is looking at ways to improve the significance of the SLT to deliver information back to SAACs. This information should be the responsibility of the SAAC SLT representation at the SAAC, e.g. two-way communicator.

V. **Public Comments** –

Maria Tan – Announcement: Boomers and Beyond 2nd Annual Action Expo

Dennis R. Miller – My 68th birthday is April 9 with my twin sister born in Glendale, CA. Advocate for the people messenger for God. My new email, address is now DennisMiller01@att.net as of 02-21-13.

William Legere – Speak about LACCC Conference on June 3, 2013

Joseph DeGuerre – Address the issue of 51/50 persons and now they should handle in an arrest.

Mark Karmatz – Spoke on NIMBYism and the need for communication to be given directly to consumers.

MC Harris – Had questions about the African American Mental Health Conference. What's the hold up to move forward and why has it been delayed 4-5 years. Last 2-times I checked the committee dropped the ball.

VI. **Meeting adjourned/NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, April 25, 2013

11 am – 1:30

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

Room 739

500 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Minutes prepared by Canetana Hurd

County of Los Angeles
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MOTION FORM

Meeting date: March 28, 2013

MOTION:

That the Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission seek assistance from Los Angeles County Supervisor Mike Antonovich and Dr. Marvin Southard, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health in expanding services to meet the mental health needs of those residing in the cities and communities of the Antelope Valley (AV). The population in the AV has increased exponentially over the past several years and the demand for services outstrips the availability of such services to a critical level. Un-provided and under-provided services are not new to the AV area and the absence is proving more life threatening to those citizens in critical need. For example, the rates of suicide and suicides-in-progress.

The needs of the AV as identified by Service Area 1 Advisory Committee, the Service Area 1 Providers Group and the Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission are as follows:

- * A local **Psychiatric Urgent Care** facility.
- * A designated **Mental Evaluation Team (MET)** to solely assist AV citizens in the capacity of crisis first responders, placement assistance, and preventative measures such as patient referral to clinics and support services instead of commitment (5150 WIC), arrest and incarceration in the County jail system, but instead treated or referred.
- * Increase **capacity** to meet the community supportive service needs for adults and young adults with mental illness, with focus on housing, employment, clinical services, benefits assistance, community integration and other quality of life issues. This would include an equitable allocation of FSP slots in Service Area 1.
- * Provide incentives to increase the number of **psychiatrists** in the AV area to properly meet the psychiatric needs of the AV community. This should also include ancillary services necessary to accomplish this task.
- * Increase/provide means of **transportation** for those patients in the expansive area of the Antelope Valley, to facilitate access to services in the community in which they live.

Commissioner making the motion: Judy Cooperberg

Commissioner second the motion: Barry Perrou

ACTION:

Plan of Action

*Present the above motion for review at the March 14, 2013 Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission Executive Committee meeting.

*Make the above motion at the March 28, 2013 meeting of the Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission.

*Meet with Dr. Southard including Commissioners Cooperberg, Perrou, Sofro and DeBose to discuss the need for the above and establish working plans and time lines to accomplish these requests/recommendations.

*Meet with Supervisor Michael Antonovich along with their in-house and field staff as they choose, to discuss the elements of this motion and emphasize that this is the Commission's agreed upon annual goal for 2012-13.

*Present Antelope Valley Unmet Mental Health Needs report at full Board of Supervisors meeting.

*As needed, work with Los Angeles County Supervisor Antonovich staff in further researching and developing necessary details and information to provide direction in meeting the requests on behalf of the citizens of the Antelope Valley community.

MOTION:

Barry Perrou, PsyD
Commissioner, Fifth District

Victoria A. Sofro
Commissioner, Fifth District

Judy A. Cooperberg, MS, CPRP
Commissioner, Fifth District